

REMARKS

Claims 19-25 are presented for consideration, with claims 19, 22, 23 and 25 being independent.

Applicant respectfully wishes to comment on the outstanding objection to claims 19, 22, 23 and 25 for allegedly containing subject matter that is not adequately supported by the disclosure. The claimed subject matter at issue relates to the feature of increasing and decreasing the scan speed of at least one of the first and second stages of the exposure apparatus so as to compensate for a change in the exposure condition.

In addition to the comments submitted in the Request for Reconsideration filed April 19, 2005, the Examiner's attention is respectfully directed to Figure 6D and the accompanying disclosure on page 24, lines 9-24, of the specification.

As will be appreciated, Figure 6D illustrates calibration marks, wherein the left-most box depicts an image shift offset in a negative direction and the fifth box from the left shows an image shift offset in the positive direction. As disclosed in the identified portion of the specification, image shift can occur due to vibration of the apparatus during scanning exposure, and such image shift offset can be corrected by controlling, for example, the scan speed.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the claimed subject matter at issue is fully supported by the specification.

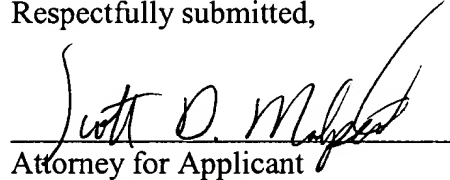
Claims 19-25 are submitted to be patentable over Taniguchi '520 for the reasons set forth in the Request for Reconsideration, including Applicant's position that Taniguchi

fails to teach or suggest increasing and decreasing the scan speed of at least one of the first and second stages in an actual exposure process so as to compensate for a change in the exposure condition.

Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of the subject application is deemed to be in order and such action is respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Scott D. Malpede", is written over a horizontal line.

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